

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01  
ICA-11 SP-02 NAS-01 OES-09 SCS-06 CA-01 PPT-01  
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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4639  
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y TEXT (ADD LINE 14 PARA 2)

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CGEN, OEXC, UR, US  
SUBJECT: EMBASSY PROTESTS ACCESS INCIDENT INVOLVING  
EXCHANGE PROFESSOR AND FAMILY

1. DURING THE COURSE OF HIS JULY 21 DEMARCHE ON  
THE SMITH INCIDENT (SEPTEL), POL COUNSELOR DELIVERED  
PROTEST NOTE TO MFA USA DIVISION DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
ISAKOV REGARDING ACCESS INCIDENT EARLIER THAT DAY  
INVOLVING NAS EXCHANGE PROFESSOR GABRIEL KOJOIAN  
AND HIS CHILDREN. TEXT OF NOTE FOLLOWS.

2. BEGIN TEXT: THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA ONCE AGAIN MUST PROTEST TO THE MINISTRY OF  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST  
REPUBLICS THE OUTRAGEOUSLY RUDE TACTICS OF THE  
UNIFORMED MILITIA OFFICERS STATIONED AT THE GATES  
OF THE EMBASSY.

AT APPROXIMATELY 12:30 P.M., THREE AMERICAN  
CITIZENS, PROFESSOR GABRIEL KOJOIAN AND HIS  
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TWO CHILDREN, SOUGHT ACCESS TO THE EMBASSY. PROFESSOR  
KOJOIAN IS IN THE SOVIET UNION ON  
THE EXCHANGE PROGRAM BETWEEN THE U.S. NATIONAL ACADEMY  
OF SCIENCES AND THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE  
USSR. SINCE THEIR PASSPORTS WERE WITH THE HOTEL  
OFFICE, THEY WERE UNABLE TO PRODUCE THEM AS EVIDENCE  
OF THEIR AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP. THE MILITIA GUARD

REFUSED TO ACCEPT OTHER DOCUMENTS AS EVIDENCE OF THEIR CITIZENSHIP OR TO ALLOW THEM TO ENTER THE EMBASSY.

AT 12:35 P.M., ROBERT PRINGLE AND RICHARD CARTER, VICE CONSULS OF THE EMBASSY, INTERVENED IN THE AFFAIR. AFTER A SHORT DISCUSSION WITH THE MILITIA OFFICER, AND A TRANSLATION INTO RUSSIAN OF MR. KOJOIAN'S DOCUMENTS, THE AMERICAN CITIZENS WERE FINALLY ALLOWED TO ENTER THE EMBASSY.

THE EMBASSY WISHES TO PROTEST THE FAILURE OF THE MILITIA TO OBSERVE THE TERMS OF ARTICLE XII OF THE SOVIET-AMERICAN CONSULAR CONVENTION, THAT GUARANTEE AMERICAN CITIZENS ACCESS TO THE EMBASSY. THE EMBASSY ALSO WISHES TO NOTE THAT THIS IS BUT THE LATEST EXAMPLE OF THE MILITIA'S UNWILLINGNESS TO OBSERVE BASIC NORMS OF INTERNATIONAL BEHAVIOR.

THE EMBASSY ONCE AGAIN MUST DEMAND THAT EFFECTIVE STEPS BE TAKEN BY THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO ENSURE THAT ITS OFFICIALS ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC NORMS AND THE SOVIET-AMERICAN CONSULAR CONVENTION. END TEXT.

3. AFTER SENDING THE NOTE TO ISAKOV, POL COUNSELOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BROWN SAID IT WAS HIS GENERAL IMPRESSION THAT IN RECENT TIMES THE SITUATION AROUND THE EMBASSY HAS BECOME MUCH MORE INTENSE IN TERMS OF THE BEHAVIOR OF THE MILITIAMEN WITH RESPECT TO INDIVIDUALS SEEKING RIGHTFUL ENTRY INTO THE EMBASSY AND THAT THIS IS INDICATIVE OF THE WORSENEDED WORKING SITUATION TO WHICH PERSONNEL OF THE EMBASSY ARE SUBJECTED BY SUCH ACTIONS.

4. ISAKOV REPLIED THAT HE COULD NOT ACCEPT THE PROTEST INSOFAR AS IT CONCERNS ACCESS TO THE EMBASSY. IT IS ILLOGICAL AND CONTRADICTORY. THE AMERICANS WERE ADMITTED, HE SAID. A DELAY OF ONLY FIVE MINUTES WAS INVOLVED AND ISAKOV COULD NOT UNDERSTAND HOW THAT COULD BE PROTESTED. HE WISHED TO EMPHASIZE THE ELEMENT OF THE SECURITY OF THE GROUNDS OF THE EMBASSY AND THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MILITIA NOT TO PERMIT ANY INCIDENT WHICH COULD LEAD TO THE INSECURITY OF THE EMBASSY. THIS REFLECTS THE ATTEMPTS OF THE MILITIA TO BE VIGILANT REGARDING THE SECURITY OF THE EMBASSY.

5. BROWN RESPONDED THAT WE HAVE A TOTALLY DIFFERENT

CONCEPT OF WHAT CONSTITUTES THE NEEDS OF PROTECTION  
OF THE EMBASSY AS FAR AS THE MILITIA IS CONCERNED.  
PROFESSOR KOJOIAN IS IN THE SOVIET UNION ON AN  
OFFICIAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXCHANGE. HIS PASSPORT  
WAS AT THE HOTEL WHEN HE WAS STOPPED BY THE MILITIA-  
MAN, AND IF TWO OFFICERS FROM THE EMBASSY HAD  
NOT APPEARED THE PROFESSOR AND HIS FAMILY MIGHT  
NOT HAVE BEEN PERMITTED TO ENTER THE EMBASSY AT  
ALL. TOON

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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